

# Geographic Names Proposal Report

For NZGB Meeting 29 April 2011

- (1) **Alternative Māori Names for the North and South Islands** *(restoring)*
- (2) **North Island and South Island** *(making official)*

## General Background

### ***Past Consideration by the Board***

Refer to the Report prepared for the Board's meeting on 3 August 2010, which summarised where these proposals were at then, and still remain so to date, with the exception of an update to the Amendment Act, discussed in the following paragraphs. See also Agenda item 17. At the Board's 3 August 2010 meeting, the Board agreed to defer its decision.

### ***Progress of the Amendment to the 2008 Act***

The wording for the alternative naming clause remains as advised to the Board on 3 August 2010.

Part of the delay in progressing the Amendment has been due to the opportunity taken to include an additional (non-technical) clause relating to discontinuing Crown protected area names. The new clause ensures that the Board is advised when DOC have revoked a reserve or changed its status, so that the Gazetteer can be updated by removing the CPA name.

The Cabinet Paper seeking to introduce the Amendment Bill, was endorsed by the Cabinet Legislation Committee on Thursday 10 March 2011 [LEG Min (11) 4/3 refers].

The Cabinet Committee subsequently ratified the LEG recommendations on the following Monday.

The Bill is to be introduced to Parliament by 31 March 2011, and will hold a category 3 priority on the 2011 Legislation Programme (to be passed in 2011 if possible). It will be referred to the Government Administration Committee who will report back to the House by 14 July 2011. The intention is for the Amendment Bill to be enacted by 17 November 2011, but due to the election later in 2011, and with Treaty settlement legislation being a Government priority, there could be further delays.

### ***Action for the Board***

Because the 2008 Act will not be amended in time for the Board's 29 April 2011 meeting, it would not be advisable for the Board to proceed without a statutory power to:

- (i) notify the alternative Māori name proposals for North Island and South Island;
- (ii) notify North Island and South Island as alternative English names.